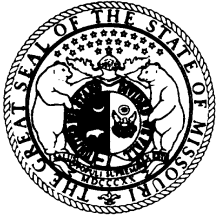


EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AGENCY



DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY
PO Box 116, Jefferson City, Missouri 65102
Phone: 573/526-9100 Fax: 573/634-7966
E-mail: mosema@mail.mo.gov



Situation Report Southwest MO Storms Event May 12, 2008, 4 p.m.

SUMMARY

Severe storms with heavy rain and high winds, along with several reported tornadoes, swept through southwest Missouri Saturday evening – Sunday Morning. These severe storms are part of a large cluster of fast-moving storms, which have also affected states such as Oklahoma, Arkansas and Tennessee. At least **16** people have been killed in southwest Missouri due to tornadoes. The hardest hit areas appear to be in Barry, Jasper and Newton Counties in region "D".

The Association of Missouri Electric Cooperatives reports New-Mac is the hardest hit member, with about 350 poles down. About 11,200 customers are reportedly without power around the state. About 100 additional linemen and contractors are reportedly on-scene to assist New-Mac. It may be Wednesday before all power is restored in that area.

Governor Blunt is allowing State resources to assist in the affected areas under the previously-issued Executive Order 08-17. He has been in contact with state agencies regarding the effects of the tornadoes and severe storms in southwest Missouri.

National Weather Service survey teams indicated that the tornado near Racine, Missouri was an EF-4. Several other tornadoes were tracked as far east as Purdy in Barry County and there are unconfirmed reports of a tornado in Western Taney County.

Utilities:

AmerenUE reports about 3,500 customers without power this morning, primarily in the St. Louis County area. Ameren UE expects to have all customers back on line this afternoon. AmerenUE has added 300 outside contractor personnel as well as 300 linemen from their own company. Empire Electric indicates that they have 786 meters out of service in Newton County. Aquila is not reporting any outages at this time. New-Mac Electric Coop reports about 7,000 meters without power as of 7 p.m. last night. Additional resources from outside Co—ops are assisting New-Mac in getting poles reset and wires restrung.

County Reports:

Barry County – Officials report one person killed. It's believed about 150-175 buildings have been affected with about a dozen destroyed. They are checking for additional damages.

Jasper County – One person reported killed near Carthage. NWS has confirmed a second tornado (EF-1) east of Carthage in Jasper County. Also reports of downed trees and minor structural damage. There was no report from Jasper County for Monday.

Newton County – All searches have been completed. **14** confirmed fatalities. **The 14th casualty died today from injuries received during the tornado. He was a firefighter and storm spotter. He died performing his duties as a storm spotter – in the line of Duty.** Over 200 folks were treated for injuries. The shelters at Calvary Baptist Church in Neosho and the shelter in Diamond are now on stand-by. There was no one overnight in either shelter. Support has continued from Missouri National Guard, Missouri State Water Patrol and Missouri State Highway Patrol. Governor Blunt and U.S. Representative Roy Blunt will be visiting the area today. Missouri Humane Society is on scene and helping with small animal rescues.

State Agencies

The State Emergency Management Agency – SEMA has activated the State Emergency Operations Center to Level One. **Joint FEMA/SEMA Damage Assessments will commence this afternoon and continue through tomorrow.**

Missouri Information Analysis Center – MIAC continues to collect and disseminate information related to the storms and their effects.

Missouri National Guard – All National Guard resources have been released from State Emergency Duty. **MONG will be supporting Homeland Security Secretary Chertoff's visit to Northeast Oklahoma and Southwest Missouri.**

Missouri State Highway Patrol – Troop “D” officers responded to the areas hit by the storms and are assisting local jurisdictions in matters such as traffic control and security. 30 officers have been assigned to this incident, from Troops A, G and I. MSHP Troop D will be reducing their assistance to Newton County - Back to four officers for Monday Night. Communications Bus will continue to assist Newton County until tomorrow.

Missouri State Water Patrol – MSWP had 18 officers are assisting local law enforcement officers. MSWP also reported Osage Bluff Marina was damaged/destroyed by high winds. No casualties reported. Water Patrol will be reducing their assistance to local communities as this situation is winding down.

Department of Agriculture – No large numbers reported, just sporadic cattle and turkey farm problems.

Department of Health & Senior Services – DHSS requested Missouri Hospital Association check on potential patient surge issues at hospitals in areas affected by the storms and will monitor that situation.

Department of Natural Resources – Boil water order is on-going is DeSoto, Missouri due to power loss at the water department. **Parts of Newton County have limited boil water orders. Debris burning order is pending. Vegetative matter does not need a waiver, but they would require a no-cost permit. Waiver is pending at DNR.**

Department of Mental Health – DMH ready to assist volunteer organizations and other state agencies with issues involving shelters for the public. **DMH has manned up there counseling phones. Newton/Jasper County persons needing services should call 800/247-0661 and Barry County residents should call 800/801-4405.**

Division of Fire Safety – DFS have returned to normal operations. **Region D is handling relief matters for Fire and Search & Rescue.**

Department of Social Services – DSS ready to assist volunteer agencies in human-services related matters. No sheltering, but feeding operations continue.

Department of Transportation – All road debris have been cleaned up and re-signed. Road closings have been limited to low water crossing due to flooding.

Non Government Organizations/Volunteer Organizations:

American Red Cross (ARC) - ARC reports sheltering operations has ceased, but feeding operations continue. **There has been a request for a shelter to open at Seneca. ARC and Sal Army are coordinating this last item.**

Americorps has mobilized two teams; one is enroute to Southwest Missouri. Supervisor is in Neosho coordinating Americorps response. Call-in numbers set up for residents needing help with debris clean up. **The numbers are (417) 451-8248 or 8249 and will be staffed from 9 AM – 4 PM daily.**

Salvation Army (SA) - Salvation Army reports sheltering operations has ceased, but feeding operations continue.

United Way – 211 – Not many calls at this time and they are continuing to monitor the situation.

Weather:

The National Weather Service Reports (Springfield) another round of thunderstorms and super cell development Tuesday Night into Wednesday Day.

Point of Contact:

The State Emergency Management Agency has returned the State EOC to Level One operations. It will be open from 7:30 AM – 4:30 PM until further notice and can be contacted at 573-526-9100. Any requests for assistance after hours should be directed to the SEMA Duty Officer at 573-751-2748.